



Department of Justice

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Middle District of Florida

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MAN ARRESTED FOR FEDERAL CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE CRIMES COMMITTED IN BREVARD COUNTY

Orlando, Florida - United States Attorney A. Brian Albritton announces today the unsealing of an indictment charging Eric Albert Seiden (age 45, of Miami) with producing child pornography, transmitting obscene material to a minor, and using a facility of interstate commerce to entice a minor to engage in sex. If convicted on all counts, Seiden faces a maximum penalty of 70 years in federal prison. The indictment also notifies Seiden that the United States intends to forfeit assets, that are alleged to be traceable to proceeds of the offense. Seiden was arrested in Miami this morning and is expected to have his initial appearance in federal court in Miami later today. He will eventually be transported to Orlando to face these charges.

The indictment alleges that, on February 1, 2009, Seiden transmitted an obscene picture to a minor. He also caused a minor to pose for child pornography. And he enticed a minor to engage in sex.

This case was investigated by the Brevard County Sheriff's Office and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Carlos Perez.

An indictment is merely a formal charge that a defendant has committed a violation of the federal criminal laws, and every defendant is presumed innocent unless, and until, proven guilty.

This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse. Led by United States Attorneys' Offices and the Criminal Division's Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section (CEOS), Project Safe Childhood marshals federal, state, and local resources to better locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children via the Internet, as well as to identify and rescue victims. For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit www.projectsafechildhood.gov.

The investigation that led to this case was part of Operation Predator, a nationwide ICE initiative to identify, investigate and arrest those who prey on children, including human traffickers, international sex tourists, Internet pornographers, and foreign-national predators whose crimes make them deportable. Launched in July 2003, ICE agents have arrested more than 12,800 individuals through Operation Predator. ICE encourages the public to report suspected child predators and any suspicious activity through its toll-free hotline at 1-866-347-2423. This hotline is staffed around the clock by investigators. Suspected child sexual exploitation or missing children may be reported to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, an Operation Predator partner, at 1-800-843-5678 or <http://www.cybertipline.com>.